Press release

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Forecast good for footie fans

3 September 2001

Football fans who follow their team whatever the British weather throws at them, no longer have to suffer through a rain-lashed game or shiver in sub-zero temperatures, thanks to a new online weather service for football fans.

The Met Office has teamed up with the ITV web site to offer fans the first ever dedicated football weather service on the web. It means you can now check whether you'll need your brolly, scarf, coat or even your sunglasses for any match to see your team playing this season.

In line with the fixture list, football fans will be able to find out detailed weather information for the specific football ground where their team is playing next, throughout the 2001/02 football season.

The comprehensive service will cover all English and Scottish league matches, from the Premiership to the third division, all FA Cup, Worthington Cup and home European Cup ties, as well as all international home games for England, Wales and Scotland.

Fans simply go online to www.itv-weather.co.uk, select the football section and choose their team from the drop-down lists for each division

Using the latest in weather forecasting technology, the Met Office provides each match with a five-day weather summary in the days leading up to the game and a more detailed, hour-by-hour forecast for the host team's ground on match day.

Steve Wickham from the Met Office, says the new service will be a godsend for fans following their team at home or away. He said: "There are, of course, diehard fans who stick with their team whatever the weather, but this service will be invaluable for those of us who would rather have advance warning if the weather's going to be bad. It means we can take steps to avoid either ourselves or our children freezing in the stands or getting soaked on the sidelines."

Fans can access their team's weather information online at ITV Weather - Football or ITV Football

For further information:
Met Office Press Office +44 (0)1392 886655

Met Office Customer Centre 0870 900 0100
If you're outside the UK +44 (0)1392 885680

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